

STATEMENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA AT THE  
51<sup>ST</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLIES OF WIPO

Madam Chair, my delegation would like to congratulate you on your election as a Chairperson of the General Assembly and reiterate the support of my delegation and remain committed to work hard during the sessions of the assemblies. We also align ourselves with the statement made by Algeria on behalf of African Group, and that which was made by Benin on behalf of the LDCs.

Madam Chair, we wish to express at the outset our heartfelt condolences to the Government and peoples of the Republic of Kenya for the terrorist attack which occurred in one of the Nairobi Malls. We assure the peoples and Government of Kenya that we are together in these hard times.

Madam Chair, my delegation notes with satisfaction that since the previous Assemblies, the Organization has carried out its work in accordance with the programs and plans set out in the budget. We join others in applauding the success achieved in the conclusion of the Marrakesh Treaty for the Visually Impaired Persons. This achievement demonstrates that in the same vein by working together we can reach a conclusion on the IGC with amicable concurrence. We urge that more time should be given to the committee to make sure that we come up with a positive conclusion.

Madam Chair, my delegation commends the work being undertaken by this august Organization. We are satisfied with the way the Organization is executing the development Agenda. The Organization has continued to play a major role in facilitating the

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improvement and development of the international IP system. Further my delegation recognizes and appreciates the support extended to developing countries especially Least Developed Countries in leveraging IP for their development through WIPO.

We note that Science, innovation and technology are key to improving Africa's competitiveness and economic growth. My delegation support the statement made by the African Group in this respect and recognizes the role which WIPO plays in promoting the understanding and adoption of IP policies and laws in Member States in respect of their different levels of development, as well as enhancing the flexibility of public policies in the area of IP.

My delegation wish to express our satisfaction to the activities held in Africa Region, particularly one which was held in the United Republic of Tanzania early this year namely the African conference on the strategic importance of Intellectual Property policies to foster innovation, value creation and competitiveness. The conference brought together Ministers from various African countries, policy makers, researchers and prominent IP practitioners including CEOs of IP Offices and representatives from regional and international organizations.

Participants had the opportunity to share the importance of IP to their economies if effectively used.

The objective of the conference was to improve the understanding of the importance of intellectual property (IP) for business development and wealth creation and of its impact on economic growth among others. This Conference was co-

sponsored by the Government of Japan, WIPO and the United Republic of Tanzania and we really thank the sponsors for this support.

Madam Chair, Furthermore I am pleased with the support extended to my country by the Organization through the implementation of the Development Agenda namely cluster A: Technical assistance and capacity building. Various activities in this area were carried out since the last Assemblies as follows to mention a few:

WIPO organized and conducted a meeting on Developing the TISC Project and Innovation Support through Access to Technological Knowledge from July 3 to 5, 2013. Secondly a workshop for film makers was successfully conducted. Further, office modernization program continued where the IPAS missions visited Tanzania twice making a follow up on the functionality of the system.

Finally Madam Chair, we value support from the international organizations and particularly WIPO. We believe that the support to our country will contribute to the National efforts in all areas of IP and will further encourage creativity and innovation in the country. We conclude by encouraging the cooperating partners to continue their support on this regard.

I thank you for your kind attention